

COVID-19 Update: Thursday, 4.23.20

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City of Winooski Passes Emergency Ordinance to Ease Financial Burdens in Response to COVID-19

On Monday, April 20, 2020, Winooski City Council approved [a resolution](#) that enacted a new ordinance ([Chapter 30 - Emergency Ordinances](#)) to ease the financial burden for residents and businesses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Taxpayers and utility payers who cannot pay their property tax and utility payments due to COVID-19 may find relief in the adopted provisions.

Water and Sewer Payments

- Payments were originally due May 15, 2020. This has been extended to June 15, 2020.
- All penalty and interest payments on late water and sewer charges from FY20 Quarter 4 will not start accruing until July 16, 2020, 30 days from the extended due date.

Property Tax Payments

- The City Council does not have the authority to change the due date for Property Tax payments and the State sets the interest schedule for late property tax payments. The Legislature is currently considering changing this.
- However, the City can change the date the penalty on late property tax payments starts to accrue. For late Quarter 4 property tax payments this will start accruing on June 16, 2020, 30 days from the payment deadline of May 15.
- Please note that interest will start accruing on late payments on May 16 if no action is taken by the Legislature.

Tax Sales

- All tax sale processes for non-property tax payment will be suspended immediately and through June 30, 2021.



The Emergency Ordinance timeline is as follows:

Date	Property Taxes	Water/Sewer Utility Payments
May 15	Taxes Due	
	Tax Direct Debits Processed	
May 16	Interest added for previously due amounts (1% for Q4 and 1.5% for historic past due amounts)	
June 15		Utilities Due
		Utility Direct Debits Processed
June 16	Penalty added for non-payment (8%)	Interest added for previously past due amounts (1%)
	Interest continues to accrue (1% for Q4 and 1.5% for past due amounts)	
July 16	Interest continues to accrue (1% for Q4 and 1.5% for past due amounts)	Penalty added (8% all balances)
		Interest added (1% all balances)

You do **not** need to demonstrate proof of financial hardship to utilize any of these new due dates. It is assumed that all late payments for Quarter 4 are a result of COVID-19. With that in mind, **we are asking that if you can, please pay on schedule. This enables the City and School to continue to provide essential services such as public works, public safety, and education services.**

If you previously have signed up for direct debit and need to make a change, please contact City Hall at 802 655 6410 between 7:30 and 4:30 Monday to Friday or email our Finance Director, Angela Aldieri at aaldieri@winooski.vt.gov.

Remember, all payments can be made online: www.winooski.vt.gov/pay.

For more information on this Emergency Ordinance

- [Click here to view the resolution](#)
- [Click here to view the enacted ordinance](#)
- Call the City Clerk's Office with questions about your utility bill or property taxes: 802 655 6410
- Email the Finance Director, Angela Aldieri, with questions about this Emergency Ordinance at aaldieri@winooski.vt.gov
- And always feel free to reach out to the City Manager or Mayor if we can be of assistance
 - Jessie Baker, City Manager, jbaker@winooski.vt.gov
 - Kristine Lott, Mayor, mayor@winooski.vt.gov

